



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

courts of this Province to the King in Council in 1734, and argued and determined in 1738, is a great curiosity to a Massachusetts lawyer; and your Committee recommend that the Society refer these papers to the Publishing Committee of the next volume of our Proceedings, as documents in the history of our jurisprudence worthy of preservation and publication by this Society.*

ELLIS AMES, }
JOSEPH WILLARD, } *Committee.*

The report was accepted, and the papers referred to the Publishing Committee.

Mr. R. FROTHINGHAM, Jun., offered a few remarks in relation to an Autobiography of Colonel David Fanning, dated 1790, copied from the original, now in Nova Scotia, by Mr. Porter C. Bliss; which manuscript the President had requested Mr. Frothingham to examine. On motion, the subject of the Autobiography was referred to the Standing Committee, to take such action with reference to its purchase as they might deem advisable.

ANNUAL MEETING, APRIL 11, 1861.

The Society held its annual meeting this day, Thursday, April 11, at twelve o'clock, noon; the President, Hon. ROBERT C. WINTHROP, in the chair.

In the absence of the Librarian, the Recording Secretary announced donations from the Mercantile-Library Association of San Francisco; the Philadelphia Society

* For these papers, see p. 64 of this volume.

for alleviating the Miseries of Public Prisons; the State Historical Society of Wisconsin; George Adams, Esq.; Messrs. Adams, Sampson, and Company; Francis B. Crowninshield, Esq.; General J. Watts de Peyster; William F. Goodwin, Esq.; Hugh B. Grigsby, LL.D.; B. P. Johnson, Esq.; James Lenox, Esq.; Rev. William S. Perry; J. Sullivan Warren, Esq.; Hon. Henry Wilson; and from Messrs. Deane, Green, Lamson, Parker, Quint, Robbins (C.), Wheatland, and Winthrop, of the Society.

Before proceeding to the business usually transacted at the annual meeting, the President remarked as follows:—

It may be pleasant to us all to remember that our Society has now completed the full term of threescore years and ten since its original organization; and this large attendance, at so inconvenient an hour, affords cheering evidence that the interest in our proceedings has not abated with the lapse of time. It is peculiarly welcome to observe the presence, on this occasion, of our senior Resident Member (President Quincy), whose connection with the Society covers nearly sixty-five out of the seventy years of its existence. He is here to witness the mature development of an institution of which he saw the small beginnings, and to the progress and prosperity of which he has so liberally and efficiently contributed.

Nor can we fail to notice with pleasure the presence of the accomplished gentleman of New York, Mr. W. C. Bryant, who has recently taken the place on our Honorary roll of the lamented Irving, of whom he was the fit and felicitous eulogist.

Our brief hour this morning, gentlemen, must be mainly occupied with the formal routine of reports and elections;

but we must not quite close up the record of the year that is past, without leaving upon it some expression of our respect for the memory, and of our regret for the loss, of those whose presence in these halls, and whose participation in our proceedings, we may no longer look for. Two of our most honored and valued associates have been taken from us during the last few weeks, — LEMUEL SHAW, who was chosen a member of this Society in May, 1831; and DANIEL APPLETON WHITE, who has been of our number since May, 1836. The characters and services of these distinguished persons, in their respective spheres of public, professional, and social life, have already been noticed on more than one occasion. The eminent and admirable Chief-Justice of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts, and the faithful and excellent Judge of Probate for the County of Essex, have received the testimony and the tribute which they had so amply earned from the more immediate witnesses to their official ability and integrity. It is for us to remember them in their relations to this Society, — both of them frequent in their attendance at our meetings; both of them deeply interested in our pursuits; and both of them at once admirers and emulators of the sturdy virtues of those fathers and founders of New England, whose history it is our peculiar province to illustrate. Differing from each other somewhat in age, and still more, perhaps, in the importance and extent of their official service, yet bound together by the ties of personal friendship, by the sympathies of a common profession, and by a common devotion to more than one of our noblest and most-cherished institutions, and dying, as they did, on the same day (the 30th of March last), they may well be associated here in a common expression of respect and regret. By direction of the Standing Committee, I therefore offer the following simple Resolution; leaving it to others to offer any additional Resolutions or remarks which the death of our lamented friends may seem to call for: —

Resolved, That the Massachusetts Historical Society have heard with deep regret of the death of our distinguished and venerable associates, the Hon. Lemuel Shaw and the Hon. Daniel Appleton White; and that Professor Parsons be requested to prepare a Memoir of Chief-Justice Shaw, and Rev. Dr. Walker a Memoir of Judge White, for the Collections of the Society.

Mr. PARSONS, having been called upon by the President, spoke as follows : —

It would be impossible, Mr. President, to decline the honorable duty which your resolution purposes to confide to me, however much I might wish that it rested upon others who were better qualified to discharge it. I have not had so close and constant an intimacy with Judge Shaw as some whom I now see; but I have not been without opportunities for appreciating the extent and the character of his usefulness. After an acquaintance with him before he went upon the bench, and years of practice under him after he became Chief-Justice, I have been, for more than twelve years, a professor in the University of which he was one of the governing body, and a member of the Faculty which was peculiarly under his care.

From the first moment that I knew him, or knew of him, he has been constantly growing in the respect and confidence of the community. He carried with him, to the bench, ability, industry, learning, cautious and comprehensive sagacity, and absolute integrity; and upon him rested all the hopes which characteristics like these would inspire and justify.

But I have thought it one of his most remarkable peculiarities, that these high qualities were never in him opposed and enfeebled by those counteracting weaknesses and proclivities which other men have suppressed and overcome, but very few have found no need of overcoming. For example, vanity — and I mean by this the love of distinction, applause, and popularity — has been called a universal passion; but it had

no place in him. No man was ever truly great, certainly no man was ever a great judge, in whom this desire exerted an influence over his opinions, his conduct, or his relations with the parties or the questions which came before him. He had no need to be on his guard against this adverse influence.

So, too, if we look at a lower proclivity, — the care for one's own interest or position, and the wish to strengthen their foundations, and insure their permanence, — we shall seldom find those who occupy a high place, and fill with activity and usefulness a wide sphere, who do not need to remember that they must learn to forget self: but this thought, this caution, never came to him; and there never was any reason for its coming. We may go still farther: he could gratify his taste for literature or science, and accept and enjoy social recreations freely and cordially; but no man ever supposed that he gave to these things a moment or a thought which any duty demanded.

And, more than this, I have known men who were not weakened by vanity, nor negligent of duty, but who could not readily forget a conclusion which they had once formed, or a word or act by which they stood committed. Perhaps strong men are those who are most often harmed by this form of selfishness. What they have said or done is theirs, — is them. It has become a part of their identity, and it is scarcely possible for them to throw it off. But, of this weakness, Judge Shaw seemed to have not one particle. The profession over which he presided knew this, and perhaps the public know it. For myself, I have had some occasions to ask him to revise an opinion, to change a conclusion, or modify some course which he had recommended; and sometimes I have succeeded, and sometimes I have failed. But I say, unhesitatingly, he was the only man I ever knew who could again consider a question upon which he had once passed, with the same perfect and unencumbered freedom of inquiry as if it were presented to him then for the first time. Nor was this

the effect of watchful and successful resistance to this common weakness: it came from the fact, that, in the discharge of duty, of any duty, the thought of self never intruded.

I have mentioned these things, not merely because they seem to me characteristic of him, but because I think they contributed very much to his greatness. None of the strength of his character was wasted in watching or resisting or neutralizing any other of its elements. From the first hour that he became a judge (to go no farther back), all the moral and intellectual power that was in him was given to his duties, without obstacle or hinderance or diminution. No wonder that day by day, and every day, his greatness grew, until it reached its full stature. While other good men and eminent men, after they have overcome opposition from without, find new enemies within, calling them to a more perilous encounter, he lived straight on. Indeed, his life, in all of its relations to public duty, seemed to me one continued exercise of justice and of wisdom. It was his happiness to be — and it was our happiness, and that of the generation which knew him, and of the Commonwealth, to see in him — what a man may become, who goes forward in the observance of duty, every day holding a higher place in public confidence, every day finding his power of usefulness enlarged and invigorated by unobstructed exercise. If I might hope to make my meaning clearer by a similitude, I would say, that he seems to me like some strong tree which proves its vital force, not by overcoming the assaults of enemies, or healing its wounds, or rapidly replacing what it loses by adverse accidents, and so maintaining itself in health in despite of all hostility; but by living on, with never a hurt or a stain upon a single leaf, every day planting its roots deeper, and spreading its gifts more widely, and ripening its fruits into more consummate excellence.

I beg leave to submit, in addition to your Resolution, the following: —

Resolved, That while this Society grieves with the public, and with the friends and family of Chief-Justice Shaw, that this great and good man has passed away from among us, we would gratefully acknowledge all we owe to his long and useful life. He gave the whole force of his intellect and his character to the discharge of the highest public duties, and strengthened, by the profound respect universally felt for himself, the reverence of his fellow-citizens for the judicial body, and for its great functions. He has accustomed the whole community to regard the law of the land as the instrument of justice, by which all right is most certainly and most effectually defended against all wrong ; and, while this instrument was in his hands, no man in possession of his reason ever supposed that it could be obstructed or perverted by unworthy influences. At this moment, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is stronger and safer because Lemuel Shaw was, for a whole generation, its Chief-Justice ; and we may well hope that his usefulness and his memory will be a part of the inheritance of our children and our children's children.

Mr. FELTON responded to the call of the President in the following remarks : —

It is seldom that a society like ours is called upon, as we have been, to mourn the loss of so many eminent members in such rapid succession. Death has been busy in striking down the great and the good, and removing them from our sight. They who stood in the foremost rank are passing away ; and we, who felt ourselves protected by their presence, suddenly find that protection withdrawn.

I rise, Mr. President, to say a few brief words, especially in behalf of the College, upon the character of the late Judge White, a venerable member of this Society. I shall leave to abler men, and more intimate friends of his, the grateful task of doing full justice to his memory.

Daniel Appleton White was graduated at Cambridge in the year 1797, with a brilliant reputation unsurpassed by any of his class ; and it was a class, the catalogue of which contains names for ever famous in the history of letters and science and professional eminence. The venerable Horace Binney,

who still survives in an honored old age; the late Asahel Stearns, for many years the able Professor of Law at Cambridge; the Rev. Dr. Jenks, the modest and profound scholar, still living, and studying as vigilant as ever; Dr. John C. Warren, who, five years ago, closed a life of the highest professional distinction,—were the classmates of our departed friend. Two years after taking his degree (1799), Mr. White was appointed Tutor, and held the office four years. In 1842, Judge White was elected an overseer, and continued to discharge the duties of that position until the constitution of the Board was changed by the law of 1853. He has often served on important committees of visitation, and has attended to the interests intrusted to him, with promptness, ability, and a hearty affection for the institution where he was educated. Indeed, through all his life, the College and its concerns held a foremost place in his thoughts and his love; and it is a fact not unworthy of mention, that one of the last acts of public duty performed by him was to visit the University, towards the close of the last term, as a member of the Committee on the Divinity School. He listened with deep interest to the proceedings of that occasion, and participated in the discussion of an important question which arose in relation to the School. At the dinner, when the visiting-committees of the several Schools met after the completion of their labors, I well remember how much was added to the pleasure of the meeting by the cheerful conversation of Judge White, Mr. Quincy, and Mr. Savage. It would not be easy, Mr. President, to bring together three such men at a university-committee dinner elsewhere. One has departed from us: may his associates long remain to gladden the circles in which they move by the benignant light of their presence!

From early youth, Mr. White was a scholar. In professional and public life, he found no small part of his happiness in books. He gathered around him the most select and delightful society the whole world and all time can furnish.

He conversed daily and nightly with the master-minds of the human race. In this silent and passionless companionship, he expanded his mind and refined his tastes, assimilating to his intellectual nutriment and moral growth whatever was generous in sentiment, profound in speculation, exquisite in expression, exalting in religious spirit. He was a good classical scholar, when classical scholarship was rare. Associated with the late John Pickering, — one of the noblest and most learned men our country has yet produced, — he assisted in preparing the first American edition of a Roman author, with an original Latin commentary, ever published in the United States. But literary studies never interfered with his duties to his profession, to society, to friendship, to the domestic circle. He might have said with Cicero, "*Ego vero fateor, me his studiis esse deditum. Ceteros pudeat, si qui ita se literis abdiderunt, ut nihil possint ex his neque ad communem afferre fructum, neque in adspectum lucemque proferre. Me autem quid pudeat, qui tot annos ita vivo, ut ab nullius unquam me tempore aut commodo, aut otium meum abstaxerit, aut voluptas avocarit, aut denique somnus retardarit? . . . Hæc studia adolescentiam alunt, senectutem oblectant, secundas res ornant, adversis perfugium ac solatium præbent; delectant domi, non impediunt foris, pernoctant nobiscum, peregrinantur, rusticantur.*"

It always seemed to me that the character of Judge White was not a difficult one to read, however rare the combination of excellences which it presented. He united gentleness of nature with decision and firmness. He was modest, but fearless. He had a boundless toleration for varieties of opinion, and charity for error. Clear and decided in his own convictions upon questions of duty and religious faith, he was utterly free from the acrimony of sectarianism, and granted to others the intellectual freedom which he claimed and exercised for himself. He never usurped, as some good men do, the Almighty's prerogative of judging the secret hearts of

men. His manners were genial, bland, conciliating. He gave to others their full share of all social rights. His conversation was quiet, refined, scholarly, and full of pleasantry. It is for others to speak of the charm of his domestic character, the beauty of his daily life, the blessings he shed around him upon his immediate family: I speak of him as I knew him, chiefly in his academic relations.

I know of no happier lot than fell to our associate. Childhood and youth passed under auspicious influences; manhood, enjoying the public confidence and the warmest affections of private life, passed in honorable and useful labors, adorned by elegant studies; age advancing by imperceptible steps, leaving health unimpaired, affections unchilled, intellectual faculties undimmed, sympathies undiminished; old age marking his countenance only deep enough to show its presence, not even strewing his shapely head with white hairs,—enjoying with placid serenity the highest satisfactions of memory and hope;—these were the conditions in which our friend passed his days, and approached the great change through which all must pass; and these conditions, happy beyond the common lot, were crowned by a calm and painless death.

His place in the domestic and friendly circle is vacant. His neighbors miss his gracious form in the streets. We shall meet him no more; we shall hear his voice no more; we shall no longer enjoy, in living form, the *mitis sapientia Læli* at the University, in meetings for business, or at our academic festivals. The withdrawing of so much excellence from among us is sorrowful; we cannot help feeling it as a heavy loss: but the character and life of such a man are among our most precious treasures. The best part is not lost by earthly dissolution; nay, it acquires new powers, beyond the reach of time and chance to affect or lessen. Death has clothed it with an inviolable sanctity, and the grave is but the gateway that leads to immortality. This is the order of nature, the will of God. Let us follow courageously in the heaven-illuminated

path of the good and famous men who have gone before.
Let us remember the words of our American poet,—

“Lives of great men all remind us,
We can make our lives sublime;
And, departing, leave behind us
Footprints in the sands of Time,—

Footprints, that perhaps another,
Sailing o'er Life's solemn main,—
A forlorn or shipwrecked brother,—
Seeing, may take heart again.”

I offer the following Resolutions :—

Resolved, That the members of the Massachusetts Historical Society share in the general sorrow for the death of their late associate, Judge White of Salem. They appreciate his noble and beautiful character, and the beneficent influences of his life; they have a mournful pleasure in acknowledging the services he rendered to the community by his rare devotion to letters and to education, equally in the elementary departments, the University, and the professional school; they remember with gratitude the happiness he diffused by his genial and refined manners, his unostentatious charities, and the unpretending wisdom of his counsels; and they will ever cherish the memory of an associate whose life was an example of the purest civic virtue, adorned with elegant tastes, the amenities of the scholar, and the graces of the Christian gentlemen.

Resolved, That a copy of the Resolutions be transmitted to the family of the deceased, as an expression of our sympathy with them in their bereavement.

Dr. WALKER, in seconding the Resolutions submitted by Mr. Felton, spoke as follows :—

Mr. PRESIDENT,—In rising to second the Resolutions which have just been read, I cannot help observing, that here especially Judge White ought to be remembered; for here his favorite studies, and his most cherished sympathies and associations, found a home. Taken as a whole, it seems to me that Judge White's career came nearer to being a realization

of the young scholar's dream of life than any other which I have known. He kept up his literary tastes, his Latin and Greek, and his love of general reading, to the last. But what interested him most was history; above all, the history of New England, and particularly that of his native State. His own personal recollections went back very far. He was born in 1776: so that his life must be said to have extended over the whole of our proper national existence. What life of a distinguished Massachusetts man has been written, within the last quarter of a century, which has not derived important additions and confirmations from Judge White's reminiscences? Indeed, as my intimacy with him did not begin until he was advanced in life, I have always been tempted to look upon him as one of the old worthies of New England, living down into our own day, with his character softened and modernized in a thousand ways as to its expression, but, in every thing pertaining to solid and inflexible principle, not degenerated one whit.

Mr. President, he has been gathered to his fathers in a good old age, full of faith and hope and charity. Let not a thought of discontent or gloom touch his memory. What more or better could we desire for ourselves, or for any of our friends, than such a life and such a death?

Impressive remarks having been made upon the character and services of the honored dead by Mr. QUINCY and Mr. SAVAGE, the Resolutions were adopted unanimously.

William G. Brooks, and Horace Gray, jun., Esq., were elected Resident Members; the Very Rev. Henry Hart Milman, D.D., Dean of St. Paul's, London, an Honorary Member; and William Noël Sainsbury, Esq., a Corresponding Member.

The Recording Secretary communicated the following letter from the Hon. Levi Lincoln, a Resident Member of the Society, accompanying and presenting an autograph-letter from President Jefferson to his father, then acting as Secretary of State of the United States : —

WORCESTER, April 10, 1861.

REV. CHANDLER ROBBINS, D.D., Sec. of Mass. Historical Society.

DEAR SIR, — I send to you, for the Massachusetts Historical Society, an original letter from Mr. Jefferson to my father, preserved among the papers of the latter. It must be valued as the beautiful autograph of a distinguished man ; and is especially curious, as furnishing a striking contrast between the difficulty of travel in the central part of our country sixty years ago and the facility of intercommunication at the present time.

With assured respect and esteem, yours truly,

LEVI LINCOLN.

MONTICELLO, April 25, 1801.

DEAR SIR, — I should have set out for Washington this morning, but that it has now been raining upwards of a week, with some intermissions ; is still raining, and the wind at north-east. Of eight rivers between this and Washington, five have neither bridges nor boats. As soon as the one on which I live is fordable, it will be a signal that the others are so. This may be to-morrow : and in that case, if it has ceased to rain, I shall set out, and be with you on the fourth day, which will be before you get this ; otherwise, as soon as the weather and water-courses permit. For as to the roads, they are to be knee-deep the whole way for some time yet.

Mr. Madison has been so ill as to be confined to his bed some days, but so far recovered as to propose to set out when the weather permits.

The post arrived yesterday with your letter of the 16th, after being retarded thirty-six hours.

Accept assurances of my affectionate esteem and respect.

TH. JEFFERSON.

LEVI LINCOLN, Esq., Secretary of State.

Voted, That the thanks of the Society be presented to our respected associate, Governor Lincoln, for the valuable autograph-letter of Mr. Jefferson which he has contributed to the archives.

The Annual Reports of the Standing Committee, the Treasurer, the Librarian, and the Cabinet-keeper, were read and accepted, and ordered to be placed on file, subject to the disposal of the Committee on the publication of the Society's Proceedings.

Annual Report of the Standing Committee.

The Standing Committee, in presenting their Annual Report, would offer their congratulations to the Society on its continued prosperity and usefulness. Although its annals for the past year may not be marked by any of those special tokens of favor which have characterized some of its previous years; although no large streams of munificence have flowed into its coffers, affording, as hitherto, such valuable accessions to its pecuniary and literary treasures, — still there is abundant evidence of a vital interest in its welfare and success.

At the monthly meeting in September, the members were glad to welcome back to his accustomed chair — which he fills so acceptably to all, and which, we trust, he may continue to occupy for many years to come — our President, who had been absent, with his family, in Europe, for about fifteen months. Though necessarily more or less absorbed, while abroad, by other scenes and objects, and sometimes with cares not without their anxieties, the interests of this Society, as its officers can bear testimony, were never lost sight of by him. This is partly evidenced since his return by the many additions made by him and through him to the library and cabinet; and by the valuable papers illustrative of our early history, copied at his expense from the originals in the State-

paper Office, in London, for the use of the Society. Some of these papers have been read at the monthly meetings, and will form a most attractive feature in the next volume of Proceedings.

The Standing Committee are required by the By-laws of the Society to make a careful examination of the library and museum, and also of the Dowse Library, and to report in detail, at the annual meeting, on their condition.

[The details of this annual examination, which were given in the Report, are here omitted.]

For the increasing accessions to the library, more shelf-room is needed; and should be provided for at once, in the apartments above, to a considerable extent. Books are worthless unless they are accessible when called for. Every book and pamphlet in the library should have its place, and the Librarian should know where to put his hand upon it at once.

No books have been purchased for the library the past year (eighteen only have been added by way of exchange). The Society, unfortunately, has no fund for the purchase of books, and is dependent for its accessions upon donations. A library formed in this way must necessarily be of a very miscellaneous character, and have great deficiencies. All libraries, of course, have deficiencies; but there are certain bibliographical and other works of reference almost indispensable, which, if the Society had a fund for the purchase of books, should at once be procured.

Of the Dowse Library but little need be said; the duty of the Society being to preserve the books as they were received, yet to afford every facility for their use, agreeably to the rules adopted for the government of this library. The sections, or separate divisions of the shelves, have been lettered at the top, and the library-catalogue has been marked to correspond; so that any book in the catalogue can be found on the shelf.

The Cabinet-keeper will report on the department under his special care : but the Standing Committee cannot forbear to allude to one subject to which he will call the attention of the Society ; viz., the condition of some of the portraits in the cabinet. Many of these, and among them the oldest and most valuable in the collection, are fast fading and crumbling away, and need the restoring hand of art to save them from absolute destruction. If the Society had suitable apartments in which to exhibit their pictures, they might reasonably count upon many donations of historical portraits and other pictures of value, and this department of our cabinet be made most interesting and attractive.

It is to be hoped that the Society may have the good fortune, before many years, to be able to occupy the whole of this building, including the apartment below, which they are now obliged to lease, and which would afford ample and elegant accommodations for the cabinet and library.

The Treasurer's Report shows in detail the property of the Society, and the income it possesses for its current expenses. This, as the Committee know by experience, is, by far, too restricted. As has been stated, there is no fund for the purchase of books. Indeed, the means of the Society are wholly inadequate for its legitimate wants ; and while the Committee cannot fail to acknowledge the promptness and liberality with which many members have met the calls which have been made upon them from time to time, during the past few years, to furnish means to carry forward the purposes of the Society, it cannot be concealed that the necessity of such appeals shows that the great want of the Society is a permanent, unrestricted fund to its General Account.

The Committee will not conceal their regret that the year should have passed away without the appearance of a volume of Collections from either of the two Publishing Committees which were charged with their respective duties :

but they are gratified in being able to add, that the printing of a volume has been commenced, to embrace a portion of the manuscripts, belonging to the Prince Library, known as the Hinckley and Mather Papers; and they confidently hope, that, before many months, the Committee in charge will be able to report that the volume is completed.

The last volume of Collections was published in 1858: the first volume was issued in 1792. During these sixty-seven years, thirty-four volumes of Collections have been published; making an average of one volume in two years. All these, except the two last, were published with only the ordinary resources of the Society. With the Appleton Fund, the Society has the means, if devoted entirely to publication, of printing a volume every year, even if no returns from the sale of such a volume should be realized; and the Society is in possession of the richest amount of manuscript material, awaiting publication, sufficiently large to tax the industry of the most active Publishing Committees for many years to come.

Four names have been stricken from the list of Resident Members during the past year. The death of Mr. Judd was noticed by Mr. Savage at the May meeting; and the death of Dr. Lowell, by the President, at the meeting in February, — appropriate tributes being paid to the characters of these excellent men. And to-day the Society has been called upon to notice the departure, since the last meeting, of two among the most distinguished upon its Resident roll, — the Hon. Lemuel Shaw, late Chief-Justice of this Commonwealth, and the Hon. Daniel A. White, late Judge of Probate for the County of Essex.

Nine Resident Members have been elected the past year; and, if the nomination of two made to-day by the Standing Committee is confirmed by an election, the Society will number *ninety-nine* Resident Members, — within one of the constitutional limit.

But two names have been stricken from the Honorary and Corresponding roll, — that of Charles Fraser of South Carolina, and that of Dr. Francis of New York; and the decease of these distinguished men was properly noticed by the President.

[After suggestions with reference to the time of holding the meetings of the Society, which are here omitted, the Report concludes as follows:—]

The Committee, on the conclusion of their labors, would call the attention of members to the responsibility which rests on each to do what lies in his power to further the interests of the Society. They should not forget the motto upon their seal. Too much is expected of the oldest Historical Society in the country, with its present commanding position, with its rich treasures of books and manuscripts, situated in a community of such large and growing intelligence and wealth, to permit any folding of hands, or any relaxing of efforts, to carry forward the institution to further degrees of usefulness and honor.

For the Committee.

CHARLES DEANE, *Chairman.*

Annual Report of the Treasurer.

The Treasurer of the Massachusetts Historical Society presents the following statement of its financial condition:—

GENERAL ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING APRIL, 1861.

DEBITS.	
Balance due Treasurer	\$777.73
Interest to Suffolk Savings Bank	1,620.00
John Appleton's Salary	699.96
George Arnold's Salary	543.22
Reprinting Volume of Collections	261.96
Sundries	206.64
Insurance	187.50
Boston Taxes	186.00
Printing and Binding	282.98
Historical Trust-fund	120.00
Coal	60.67
	<u>\$4,946.66</u>

CREDITS.

Rent of Suffolk Savings Bank	\$2,200.00
Income of Dowse Fund	600.00
Assessments	355.00
Admission Fees	110.00
Sales of Society's Publications	1,027 00
Tax of Suffolk Savings Bank	186.00
Copyright on Sales of Life of John Quincy Adams	23.40
Sundries	9.75
Balance due Treasurer	435.51
	<u>\$4,946.66</u>

THE APPLETON FUND.

This fund consists of ten thousand dollars, which was presented Nov. 18, 1854, to the Society, by the executors of the will of the late Samuel Appleton, on the condition that its income shall be applied to the purchase, preservation, and publication of historical material. Volumes three and four of the Fourth Series of the Society's Collections were printed from this fund. It is invested, as it was received from the executors, in the stocks named below.

Account ending April, 1861.

DEBITS.

Balance to new Account	\$2,183.61
	<u>\$2,183.61</u>

CREDITS.

Balance of the Account of 1859	\$1,203.61
Dividends on 2 Shures of Amoskeag Company	200.00
" " 2 " " Stark Company	200.00
" " 1 Share " Appleton Company	100.00
" " 1 " " Hamilton Company	90.00
" " 1 " " Merrimack Company	100.00
" " 1 " " Cotton Mills	90.00
" " 1 " " Suffolk Company	100.00
" " 1 " " Manchester Prints	100.00
	<u>\$2,183.61</u>

The fifth volume of the Fourth Series of the Collections is now going through the press ; and the expense of this, with the volumes to consist of the Winthrop Papers and the Washington Papers, on which committees are now engaged, will require the whole of this balance.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL TRUST-FUND.

This fund consists of two thousand dollars, presented to the Society, Oct. 15, 1855, by Hon. David Sears; the annual income of which may be expended in certain specified objects, as the Society may, by special vote, direct.

Account to April, 1861.

DEBITS.

Balance in the Treasurer's hands	\$150.57
	<u>\$150.57</u>

CREDITS.

Balance of Account of 1860	\$30.57
Income to March 1, 1860	120.00
	<u>\$150.57</u>

THE DOWSE FUND.

This fund, of ten thousand dollars, was presented to the Society, April, 1857, by the executors of the will of the late Thomas Dowse; and it is invested in a note signed by Edward Hyde and O. W. Watris, secured by mortgage on real estate. The income, six hundred dollars, is used for heating the library-room, insurance on the library, and a portion of the salary of the Librarian.

THE CATALOGUE FUND.

This is a special fund, raised by subscription, to print the Catalogue of the Society's Library, which has just been completed.

DEBITS.

Due the Treasurer, on account of 1860	\$177.10
Paid John Wilson & Son, balance for printing the Catalogue	703.00
	<u>\$880.10</u>

CREDITS.

Subscriptions received	\$300.00
Balance due the Treasurer	580.10
	<u>\$880.10</u>

PROPERTY OF THE SOCIETY.

The Estate on Tremont Street. — The Society purchased, March 6, 1833, of the Provident Savings Institution, the second story and one-half of the attic story of this building, for \$6,500; and on the 13th of March, 1856, the remainder of the interest of this institution, for \$35,000. A portion of this was paid by subscription; and, for the remainder, the Society mortgaged the whole estate to the Suffolk Savings Bank for Seamen and others, for \$27,500. Five hundred dollars have been paid on this note. The lower floor is leased to this bank for fifteen years from March 1, 1856, for \$2,200 per year.

The Library, Paintings, and Cabinet. — The general library consists of about nine thousand bound volumes, and fifteen thousand pamphlets.

The Society's Publications. — These consist of the thirty-four volumes of the Collections, two volumes of Proceedings, and two volumes of the Catalogue, — about six thousand volumes, — which are for sale.

The Appleton Fund, of ten thousand dollars.

The Massachusetts Historical Trust-fund, of two thousand dollars.

The Dowse Library. — This library was presented to the Society by the late Thomas Dowse, and consists of about five thousand volumes.

The Dowse Fund, of ten thousand dollars.

The Copyright of the "Life of John Quincy Adams." — This was presented to the Society by Hon. Josiah Quincy. A new edition has been issued the last year by Crosby, Nichols, Lee, and Company.

THE INCOME.

The income of the Society consists of an annual assessment, on each Resident Member, of five dollars, or, instead, the payment of sixty dollars; the admission-fee, of ten dollars, of new members; the rent of the lower floor of the Society's building; the income of the Dowse Fund; the sales of the publications of the Society; and the sales of the "Life of

John Quincy Adams." Its income is not at all adequate to the proper maintenance of such an institution, as it will not warrant the expense of securing the full services of a Librarian.

There is no fund for the purchase of books. A permanent income for this object, that would enable the Society, from time to time, to purchase works on American history not in its library, would very largely add to its means of usefulness.

RICHARD FROTHINGHAM, *Treasurer*.

BOSTON, April 9, 1861.

Annual Report of the Librarian.

The Librarian of the Massachusetts Historical Society respectfully submits his Annual Report, as required by the rules of the Society. The accessions to the library since the last annual meeting amount to two thousand eight hundred and three items: viz., two thousand six hundred and seven pamphlets, two hundred and fifty-six volumes,—eighteen of these by exchange, two hundred and thirty-eight by donation,—thirty-five manuscripts, and five maps; making the whole number of volumes in the library, including four thousand six hundred and fifty volumes in the Dowse Library, to be fourteen thousand three hundred and thirty-six; comprising —

13,149 of printed books,
505 of manuscripts,
682 of newspapers.
14,336

To which are to be added four hundred and ninety-two cases filled with unbound pamphlets.

Among the donations to the library during the past year, special notice may be taken of—

Seven volumes of laws and public documents, with a large collection of reports, and other pamphlets, by the State of Tennessee.

Sixteen volumes, and forty-one *fasciculi*, of publications by the Royal Academy of Sciences of Lisbon.

Thirty-nine bound volumes of newspapers, by Isaac Winslow, Esq.

Two volumes "Sussex Archæological Collections," by W. Durrant Cooper, Esq., of London.

A volume of rare Tracts, by Rev. Charles Mason, D.D.

"Das Schiller Buch," beautifully illustrated, by Dr. C. Wurzbach von Tannenberg.

Several volumes of French and German History and Biography, bearing on the American Revolution, by Hon. R. C. Winthrop.

Rush's "Occasional Productions," by the Executors of the late Hon. Richard Rush.

"Life of John C. Warren, M.D.," in two volumes, by J. Sullivan Warren, Esq.

Lower's "Patronymica Britannica," and the third edition of "Suffolk Surnames," with other publications of Mr. Bowditch, richly bound, presented by N. I. Bowditch, Esq.

Ten volumes of "Congressional Globe" and public documents, by Hon. Henry Wilson.

Two volumes of public documents of the State of Wisconsin, by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin.

Several Historical and Biographical Papers, by Count Adolphe de Circourt.

Rev. E. C. Guild, Walter Channing, M.D., Rev. C. Mason, D.D., and particularly Dr. S. A. Green, may be noticed as having presented large collections of pamphlets.

Of these accessions to the library, the titles and cross-references of all the printed books and pamphlets have been entered, by Dr. Appleton, in a Manuscript Supplementary Catalogue, and also interleaved in the Librarian's copy of the printed Catalogue; making, together with two thousand one hundred and twenty-five titles, &c., of the Catalogue of Manuscripts, a total of sixteen thousand three hundred and eighty-seven written since the publication of the Catalogue.

A separate list has also been prepared of the bound volumes of newspapers, which have been numbered and arranged conveniently for reference.

The number of volumes taken out during the past year is three hundred and thirteen; all of which are now in place.

Respectfully submitted.

S. K. LOTHROP, *Librarian.*

Annual Report of the Cabinet-keeper.

By the requirements of the By-laws, the Cabinet-keeper is expected to present an Annual Report upon the condition of his department; and, in compliance therewith, the following brief statement is made.

During the past year, there have been twenty-seven accessions to the cabinet from fourteen different sources. Among the most important additions may be mentioned the helmet given by Mrs. Tillotson of London, and supposed to have belonged to Sir Laurence Washington, of Garsdon, Wilts, who was a younger brother of Robert, the ancestor of George Washington. Apart from the associations which are naturally connected with this historical name, it is a valuable specimen of armor. We may also mention, among the gifts to the Society, four medals presented by the President, all interesting works of art, and commemorating important events.

The only outlay of money incurred by the Cabinet-keeper during the past year has been the purchase of a box for the display of Washington's epaulets, at an expense of fourteen dollars.

The most valuable department of the cabinet is the picture-gallery, comprising portraits of individuals whose names are connected with the political and ecclesiastical history of New England. This collection is one of great value and interest, containing some paintings that may well be prized, and illustrating, to a certain extent, the cultivation and progress of art in this country. Many of these pictures have been so affected by the ravages of time, that they require restoration. Colors have faded, canvas has been torn, and other changes have taken place, which demand immediate attention. It is to be regretted that means cannot be devised at once, by which this evil may be remedied. As it would involve an expenditure that might seem too lavish for the object, the suggestion is made with much diffidence. The expense for their restoration by a competent artist would be not less than one thousand dollars.

We have also a collection of coins and medals, which, if properly displayed, would add to the attractions of our rooms. It is to be hoped, that, before long, accommodations will be furnished by which this end may be attained.

Respectfully submitted.

SAMUEL A. GREEN,

APRIL 11, 1861.

Cabinet-keeper.

Mr. ROBBINS (C.) presented, on behalf of Dr. Usher Parsons, a portrait of the late Rev. Abiel Holmes, D.D. ; for which the thanks of the Society were voted to the donor.

The Committee of Nomination reported the following list of officers for the ensuing year, and the gentlemen therein named were elected ; viz. :—

President.

HON. ROBERT C. WINTHROP, LL.D. BOSTON.

Vice-Presidents.

JARED SPARKS, LL.D. CAMBRIDGE.

HON. DAVID SEARS, A.M. BOSTON.

Recording Secretary.

REV. CHANDLER ROBBINS, D.D. BOSTON.

Corresponding Secretary.

JOSEPH WILLARD, A.M. BOSTON.

Treasurer.

HON. RICHARD FROTHINGHAM, A.M. CHARLESTOWN.

Librarian.

NATHANIEL B. SHURTLEFF, M.D. BOSTON.

Cabinet-keeper.

SAMUEL A. GREEN, M.D. BOSTON.

Standing Committee.

LEVERETT SALTONSTALL, A.M. NEWTON.

COLONEL THOMAS ASPINWALL BOSTON.

REV. SAMUEL K. LOTHROP, D.D. BOSTON.

HON. CHARLES H. WARREN. BOSTON.

REV. ROBERT C. WATERSTON. CAMBRIDGE.

On motion of the Chairman elect of the Standing Committee, *voted*, That the thanks of this Society be presented to Charles Deane, Esq., Chairman of the Standing Committee, and his retiring associates, Messrs Lincoln and Whitney, for their assiduous attentions to the interests of the Society during the past year.

On motion of the Librarian elect, *voted*, That the thanks of the Society be presented to the Rev. Dr. Lothrop, for his services as Librarian of this Society during a period of six years.

MAY MEETING.

A stated monthly meeting was held this day, Thursday, May 9, in the Dowse Library.

In the absence of the President, JARED SPARKS, LL.D., one of the Vice-Presidents, was called to preside.

The Librarian announced donations from the City of Boston; Bowdoin College; the Essex Institute; the Peabody Institute; the State of Tennessee; Rev. Caleb D. Bradlee; Richard S. Fay, Esq.; William F. Goodwin, Esq.; Benjamin P. Johnson, Esq.; Nathaniel P. Norton, Esq.; E. B. O'Callaghan, Esq.; S. Urbino, Esq.; and from Messrs. Green, Metcalf, and Robbins (C.), of the Society.

The Corresponding Secretary read letters of acceptance from Horace Gray, jun., Esq., and William G. Brooks, Esq.